

## Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 /088 W

----- 018249

R 271631Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6377

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS NOUAKCHOTT 2377

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, MR LE

SUBJECT: MAURITANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON PALESTINE  
QUESTION AND LEBANON

1. MAURITANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER HAMDY OULD MOUKNASS DISCUSSED  
PALESTINE QUESTION AND LEBANON WITH LOCAL REPORTERS JUST PRIOR  
TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR UNGA ON SEPTEMBER 25.

2. ACCORDING TO MOUKNASS, PROBLEM OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IS  
PRINCIPAL PROBLEM IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IT IS THE MAJOR ISSUE;  
OTHERS ARE SUBSIDIARY, EVEN THE OCCUPATION OF ARAB LAND BY  
ISRAEL. MAURITANIAHPAS ALWAYS SAID IT IS UP TO PALESTINE  
LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO) TO DEFINE ITS STRATEGY AT UNI-  
TED NATIONS. MOUKNASS ADDED THAT MAURITANIA WILL PROVIDE  
"UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT" FOR PLO POSITION; IT ONLY REMAINS FOR  
THE PLO TO PROPOSE TO US THE ACTION IT WISHES WE UNDERTAKE.

3. ON LEBANON, MOUKNASS NOTED THAT ELIAS SARKIS WAS ELECTED  
DEMOCRATICALLY AND SAID MAURITANIA HOPES THIS NEW CHIEF OF  
STATE FINDS THE MEANS WHICH WILL PERMIT A TERMINATION  
OF THE CIVIL WAR AMONG THE VARIOUS LEBANESE COMMUNITIES,  
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ON THEHSZE HAND, AND THE PALESTINIANS, ON THE OTHER

HAND. MOUKNASS SAID HE BELIEVES SARKIS WILL TACKLE THIS TASK AND HE EXPRESSED CONVICTION THAT SARKIS MAY WELL BE ABLE TO STOP CIVIL WAR AND, STEP BY STEP, RETURN LEBANON TO NORMAL ADMINISTRATION. MOUKNASS CONCLUDED THAT "BEHIND THIS CIVIL WAR THERE ARE OTHER NON-ARAB FORCES WHO AIM TO UNDERMINE ARAB SOLIDARITY AND TO DESTROY AND WEAKEN THE BATTLE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE".

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WAR, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, LIBERATION FRONTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976NOUAKC02377  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760364-0661  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, MR, LE, XF, UNGA, PLO, (HAMDI OULD MOUKNASS)  
**To:** STATE  
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